

2009 Durango Zone Annual Report



Archuleta County

Dolores County

Hinsdale County

La Plata County

Mineral County

Montezuma County

San Juan County



The DRC Annual Report Contents:

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Narraguinnep Wildland Fire, August 7 - 19, 2009 Photos by Suzie Taylor

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Activity Narrative (See Section 2 and 3 for details):

The 2009 fire season started extremely slow for Durango Dispatch (DRC) area units, having only 29 fires as of June 25th. This is only 39% of normal; the five year average has been 73 fires by this date. However; we quickly caught up with the normal fire activity with July having 67 fires, August had 63 fires, and September had 76 fires, for a total so far of 270 fires for this fire season. Out of the 270 fires our resources initial attacked, only three went to a type 3 large incident; they were: Bradfield fire on Dolores Forest Service land that burned 2,400 acres and was managed as a wildland fire for resource benefit utilizing a contain/confinement strategy. The Narraguinnep fire also on Dolores Forest Service land burned 7,300 areas and the last of the large fires was the Pinon fire on Southern Ute (BIA) lands which burned 111 acres. The remaining fires were contained during initial attack or a few days later. DRC mobilized 479 resources for a total of 760 personnel to National Assignments to actively support incidents across the nation from South Carolina in the spring to California this fall. Additionally, DRC mobilized 153 resources with a total of 315 personnel to support incidents in the Rocky Mountain Region. For Initial Attack, DRC mobilized 942 resources with a total of 1,926 personnel. In total, the Durango Dispatch Center mobilized 1,574 resources (overhead, aircraft, crews, and equipment) for a total of 3,001 personnel.

Due to the staffing shortages on federal lands within southwest Colorado, these units requested an additional 760 personnel to assure seven day initial attack coverage for our area. Detailed information about Durango Dispatch Area prescribed fire accomplishments, fire suppression activity and

resources mobilized can be found within this report.

Weather Summary

Southwest Colorado began 2009 with snowpack that was near normal to slightly below normal. The near normal to slightly below normal snowpack

was maintained through the spring months, while the rest of western Colorado experienced increasing runoff due to much heavier snowpack from the previous winter. The snowpack melted quickly in April and May, as temperatures over southwest Colorado averaged slightly above normal. By the

end of May the snowpack over the San Juan mountains was about 20% of normal. At the same time May turned out wetter than normal because of several surges of showers and thunderstorms that resembled a southwest monsoon pattern. This kind of periodic precipitation continued into June, but the true southwest monsoon sputtered this year. The periods of wet monsoon flow were short-lived through late July and August, thus the mid-summer months produced near normal to below normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. Where the monsoon was feeble, there were

also no extended hot spells and few record high temperatures were set throughout the summer. September continued this trend as temperatures and precipitation were below normal across the southwest. (Chris Cuoco, Grand Junction Nat'l Weather Service Office)

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2004 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies							2007 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies						
UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres	UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
<i>MVP</i>	26	4	0	0	26	4	<i>MVP</i>	12	3.0	0	0.0	12	3.0
<i>SJD</i>	42	83	1	0	43	83	<i>SJD</i>	48	165.8	1	0.1	49	165.9
<i>SJF</i>	97	29	11	62	108	91	<i>SJF</i>	80	98.3	18	4.1	98	102.4
<i>SUA</i>	64	226	2	0	66	226	<i>SUA</i>	74	1613.9	5	0.9	79	1614.8
<i>UMA</i>	85	1111	2	1	87	1112	<i>UMA</i>	57	52.6	29	5.8	86	58.8
<i>TOTALS</i>	314	1453	16	63	330	1516	<i>TOTALS</i>	164	409.1	26	5.7	190	414.8
2005 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies							2008 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies						
UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres	UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
<i>MVP</i>	7	7	0	0	7	7	<i>MVP</i>	12	13.0	0	0.0	12	13.0
<i>SJD</i>	37	276	0	71	37	347	<i>SJD</i>	23	278.0	2	0.2	25	278.2
<i>SJF</i>	69	2353	8	1	77	2354	<i>SJF</i>	38	53.8	27	5.0	65	58.8
<i>SUA</i>	59	1217	1	26	60	1243	<i>SUA</i>	35	48.0	3	17.0	38	65.0
<i>UMA</i>	12	1560	77	190	89	1750	<i>UMA</i>	37	245.5	27	13.5	64	259.0
<i>TOTALS</i>	184	5413	86	287	270	5700	<i>TOTALS</i>	145	638.3	59	35.7	204	674.0
2006 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies							2009 - Fire and Acres for Federal Agencies						
UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres	UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
<i>MVP</i>	22	22	0	0	22	22	<i>MVP</i>	9	3.0	0	0.0	9	3.0
<i>SJD</i>	85	46	4	0	89	47	<i>SJD</i>	25	18.4	4	1.3	29	19.7
<i>SJF</i>	96	21	9	5	105	26	<i>SJF</i>	59	9742.0	15	1.7	74	9743.7
<i>SUA</i>	72	573	1	1	73	573	<i>SUA</i>	48	145.0	32	2.0	80	147.0
<i>UMA</i>	80	731	12	18	92	750	<i>UMA</i>	66	46.0	12	1.6	78	47.6
<i>TOTALS</i>	355	1393	26	24	381	1417	<i>TOTALS</i>	207	9954.4	63	6.6	270	9961.0
5 year average Federal Agencies (2004-2008)							Fire and Acres, Colorado State Forest Service, Durango District						
UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres	UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
<i>MVP</i>	16	10	0	0	16	10	<i>2004</i>	81	73.0	51	113.0	132	186.0
<i>SJD</i>	47	170	2	14	49	184	<i>2005</i>	63	116.0	31	50.0	94	166.0
<i>SJF</i>	76	511	15	15	91	526	<i>2006</i>	105	57.7	35	76.4	140	134.1
<i>SUA</i>	51	441	2	9	53	450	<i>2007</i>	86	1793.5	27	337.0	113	2130.5
<i>UMA</i>	43	730	24	45	67	774	<i>2008</i>	29	120.2	33	15.7	62	135.9
<i>TOTALS</i>	232	1861	43	83	275	1944	<i>2009</i>	24	16.2	11	32.2	35	48.4
							Report from Colorado State - Steve Ellis						

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2009 FEDERAL AGENCY/UNIT FIRE ACTIVITY

UNIT	Lightning Caused	Lightning Acres	Human Caused	Human Acres	Total Fires	Total Acres
<i>MVP</i>	9	3.0	0	0.0	9	3.0
<i>SJD</i>	25	18.4	4	1.3	29	19.7
<i>SJD-COL</i>	0	0.0	2	1.1	2	1.1
<i>SJD-DOL</i>	24	17.4	2	0.2	26	17.6
<i>SJD-PAG</i>	1	1.0	0	0.0	1	1.0
<i>SJF</i>	59	9742.0	15	1.7	74	9743.7
<i>SJF-COL</i>	15	14.0	3	0.3	18	14.3
<i>SJF-DOL</i>	18	9707.0	4	0.6	22	9707.6
<i>SJF-PAG</i>	26	21.0	8	0.8	34	21.8
<i>SUA</i>	48	145.0	32	2.0	80	147.0
<i>UMA</i>	66	46.0	12	1.6	78	47.6
Total Federal	207	9954.4	63	6.6	270	9961.0

Photo's by Taro



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PRESCRIBED FIRES			
Fuel Burning Projects	Unit	Acres	Method
Boundary	SJF-DOL	140	Broadcast
House Creek Rim	SJF-DOL	355	Broadcast
McPhee	SJF-DOL	1	Pile
North Jackson	SJF-DOL	35	Piles
Rim House	SJF-DOL	81	Broadcast
South Carver	SJF-DOL	190	Broadcast
Doe Canyon	SJF-DOL	220	Broadcast
Trail Canyon	SJF-DOL	280	Broadcast
Dolores Rim	SJD-DOL	231	Broadcast
Devil Creek	SJF-PAG	550	Broadcast
Lower Middle Mtn	SJF-PAG	265	Broadcast
Pagosa Campground	SJF-PAG	1	Piles
Peidra Aerial Ignition	SJF-PAG	1084	Broadcast
Vigil/Abeyta	SJD-PAG	470	Broadcast
Chapin Piles	NPS-MVP	40	Piles
Morfield Piles	NPS-MVP	20	Piles
Entrance	NPS-MVP	35	Broadcast
Morfield	NPS-MVP	100	Broadcast
Chapin Grass	NPS-MVP	3	Broadcast
Redonda 1	BIA-SUA	358	Broadcast
Ser Piles	BIA-SUA	26	Piles
Unit 2 Piles	BIA-SUA	51	Piles
Unit 4 Piles	BIA-SUA	10	Piles
North Pondo	BIA-SUA	15	Piles
George	BIA-SUA	25	Broadcast
First Notch	SJF-COL	61	Broadcast
Pine Point	SJF-COL	3	Piles
Hidden Valley	SJF-COL	17	Piles
Junction	SJF-COL	30	Piles
Pool Canyon	BIA-UMA	2	Piles
Stinky Wells	BIA-UMA	28	Piles
McElmo Canyon	BIA-UMA	5	Piles
		4,732	

DRC AREA SUMMARY	
Unit	Pr
San Juan Forest	
Columbine	
Dolores	
Pagosa	
San Juan Field Office	
Columbine	
Dolores	
Pagosa	
Mesa Verde Park	
Southern Ute Agency	
Ute Mountain Agency	
Totals	



Photos by Eric La Plant, San Juan Pub

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Mechanical Fuel Reduction	Unit	Acres	Method	Unit	Acres
McPhee	SJF-DOL	14	Thinning	San Juan Forest	2,571
Carlyle Point	SJF-DOL	382	Mowing	Columbine	0
Trimble Point	SJF-DOL	819	Mowing	Dolores	1,215
Turkey Springs	SJF-PAG	2	Thinning	Pagosa	1,356
Echo Canyon	SJF-PAG	13	Thinning	San Juan Field Office	794
Pagosa Campground	SJF-PAG	20	Thinning	Columbine	0
Stollsteimer	SJF-PAG	492	Mowing	Dolores	794
Stollsteimer	SJF-PAG	414	Thinning	Pagosa	0
Upper Piedra	SJF-PAG	44	Thinning	Mesa Verde Park	54
Ute Fuel Reduction	SJF-PAG	334	Mowing	Southern Ute Agency	1,033
Ute Fuel Reduction	SJF-PAG	37	Thinning	Ute Mountain Agency	479
Montezuma County	SJD-DOL	794	Mowing		
Henneman Fuel Reduction	NPS-MVP	3	Mowing	Totals	4,931
Green to Watertank Fuelbreak	NPS-MVP	4	Thinning		
Utility Corridor	NPS-MVP	14	Thinning		
Defensible Space Maintenance	NPS-MVP	33	Thinning		
Vega Road	BIA-SUA	41	Mowing		
Woodland Block	BIA-SUA	38	Mowing		
Firewood Block	BIA-SUA	26	Mowing		
Raycee	BIA-SUA	50	Mowing		
Vega Saddle East	BIA-SUA	32	Mowing		
Meadow Block	BIA-SUA	43	Mowing		
Cab Deep Knob	BIA-SUA	10	Mowing		
San Juan Arroyo	BIA-SUA	324	Mowing		
Youth Camp 8	BIA-SUA	12	Thinning		
North Black ridge Fuel Break	BIA-SUA	54	Mowing		
North Rim	BIA-SUA	108	Mowing		
Bench Block	BIA-SUA	56	Mowing		
Big Unit	BIA-SUA	200	Mowing		
Squirrel Block	BIA-SUA	39	Mowing		
Pool Canyon	BIA-UMA	73	Mowing		
Stinky Wells	BIA-UMA	50	Mowing		
Chapin Mesa	BIA-UMA	30	Mowing		
McElmo Canyon	BIA-UMA	200	Mowing		
Sundance	BIA-UMA	76	Mowing		
Cow Camp	BIA-UMA	50	Thinning		
Total		4,931			



Piedra Burn, Pagosa Public Lands , Photos by Scott Wagner

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INCIDENT RESPONSE ACTION BY DURANGO DISPATCH

This table shows all incidents in which Durango Dispatch was involved.

Information taken from WildCAD Computer Aided Dispatch System.

<u>Unit</u>	Fires, Wild & Prescribed	Smoke Checks/ False Alarms	Misc. Includes SARs, Law Enforcement
Archuleta County	4	1	2
Dolores County	7	1	0
La Plata County	16	2	0
Montezuma County	4	4	0
Mesa Verde National Park	14	2	0
Southern Ute Agency	58	12	0
Ute Mountain Ute Agency	79	16	0
Columbine Public Lands (BLM/FS)	24	12	1
Dolores Public Lands (BLM/FS)	53	22	1
Pagosa Public Lands (BLM/FS)	40	16	3
DRC (Misc out of DRC Area direct responses)	6	6	25
Total	305	94	32

Grand Total of Incidents:

431

2009 Large Fires with Incident Management Teams Assigned

FIRE NAME	STATE	AGENCY	START DATE	CAUSE	ACRES
Narraguinnep	CO	SJF	8/7/2009	Lightning	7,300
Bradfield	CO	SJF	8/2/2009	Lightning	2,400
Pinyon	CO	SUA	8/9/2009	Lightning	111

Confinement Strategy	Unit	Acres
Bradfield	SJF-DOL	2400.00
Snow Springs	SJF-PAG	0.25
Cottonwood	SJF-PAG	0.10
Mule	SJF-PAG	1.00
Poison	SJF-PAG	0.50
Red	SJF-COL	5.00
TOTAL		2406.85

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The Durango Dispatch zone has approximately 286 interagency red carded individuals to draw from for incident assignments. Out of these, approximately 66% percent actively participated in fire during 2009.

As of November 2009, Durango Dispatch processed 1,574 requests resulting in the mobilization of 3,001 personnel.

UNIT	OVERHEAD	ENGINE/WT	CREWS	DOZER/TP	AIRCRAFT	RESOURCES DISPATCHED TO THE UNITS IDENTIFIED
DRC	10	1	1	0	3	FAR LEFT COLUMN FROM OUTSIDE OUR ZONE. This includes resources ordered to support any fires, prescribed or wildfire. Total requests received were 479 for a total of 760 personnel.
DRS	0	0	0	0	3	
MVP	0	1	0	0	0	
SJD	0	0	0	0	0	
SJF	22	9	14	0	26	
SUA	7	3	5	0	13	
UMA	11	1	1	0	2	
Total	50	15	21	0	47	
UNIT	OVERHEAD	ENGINE/WT	CREWS	DOZER/TP	AIRCRAFT	RESOURCES DISPATCHED TO SUPPORT ROCKY MTN. AND NATIONAL EVENTS.
DRC	0	0	0	0	0	This list does include Contract Equipment under the unit marked Private (PVT). Total requests received were 153 for a total of 315 personnel.
DRS	53	6	0	0	0	
MVP	36	0	0	0	12	
SJD	4	2	0	0	0	
SJF	445	5	17	0	5	
SUA	0	0	0	0	0	
UMA	30	0	0	0	5	
PVT	0	0	0	0	6	
Total	568	13	17	0	28	
UNIT	OVERHEAD	ENGINE/WT	CREWS	DOZER/TP	AIRCRAFT	RESOURCES DISPATCHED TO SUPPORT INITIAL ATTACK ACTION IN OUR ZONE.
DRC	0	0	0	0	0	These includes Federal, Cooperators, and Contract Equipment. Total resources dispatched for IA were 942 for a total of 1,926 personnel. (Additional 36 Resource Orders for 38 personnel to support Prescribed fires)
DRS	39	40	0	0	3	
MVP	10	10	0	0	3	
SJD	52	32	1	0	20	
SJF	200	80	4	0	36	
SUA	69	83	4	1	24	
UMA	116	73	2	0	49	
Total	486	318	11	1	135	

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<i>Home Unit</i>	<i>TAIL #</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Passengers Delivered</i>	<i>Water Delivered</i>	<i>Cargo Delivered</i>
		<i>Flown</i>			
CO-MVP	2LM (T3)	177.7	267	115876 gals	40,551 lbs
CO-UMA	9EV (T3)	197.1	591	95076 gals	71.93 lbs
CO-SJF	73H (T1)	94.6	42	469,750 gals	4,500 lbs

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Helicopter TYPE 2	Helicopter TYPE 3	RECON	HEAVY AIR TANKERS	SEATs	LEAD PLANE	AIR ATTACK	AIR SUPER MODULE
3	11	2	11	15	6	11	0
0	19						
0	11						



Aircraft used on the Narraguinnep Wildland Fire, 2009
Photos by Taro Hill, Pagosa Springs Fire Department

2009 Durango Airtanker Base Annual Report

Durango Airtanker Base Info

- Flew 53 Missions
- Flew on 15 Fires
- 77,989 Gallons of retardant pumped

Airtanker Info Tanker 48

Contract Duration 2/15-9/27/2009

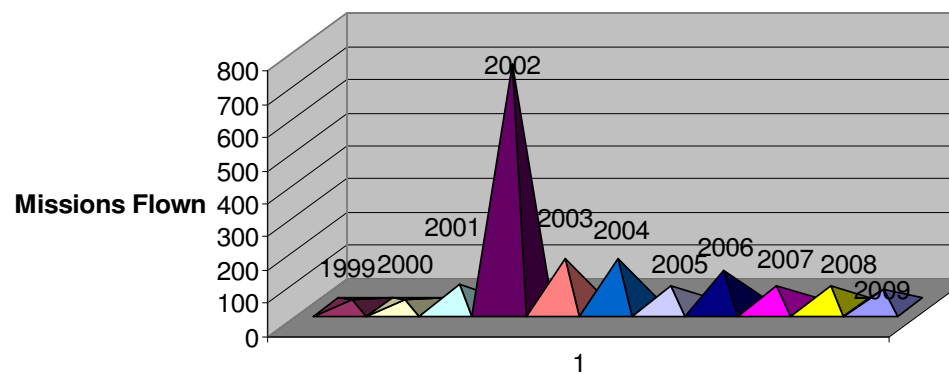
- 1,604 Hrs. Availability
- 15.87 Hrs. Unavailability
- **99.0 % Available**
- 214.85 Hrs Flight Time
- 381 Hrs. Ext. Standby
- 177 Missions Flown
- Flew on 40 fires

360,251 Gallons of Retardant Delivered

Cortez Seat Base Info

Flew 53 Missions
Flew on 12 Fires
34,970 Gallons of retardant

ATB Historic Use



Avg/year Retardant Usage 339,998 Gallons

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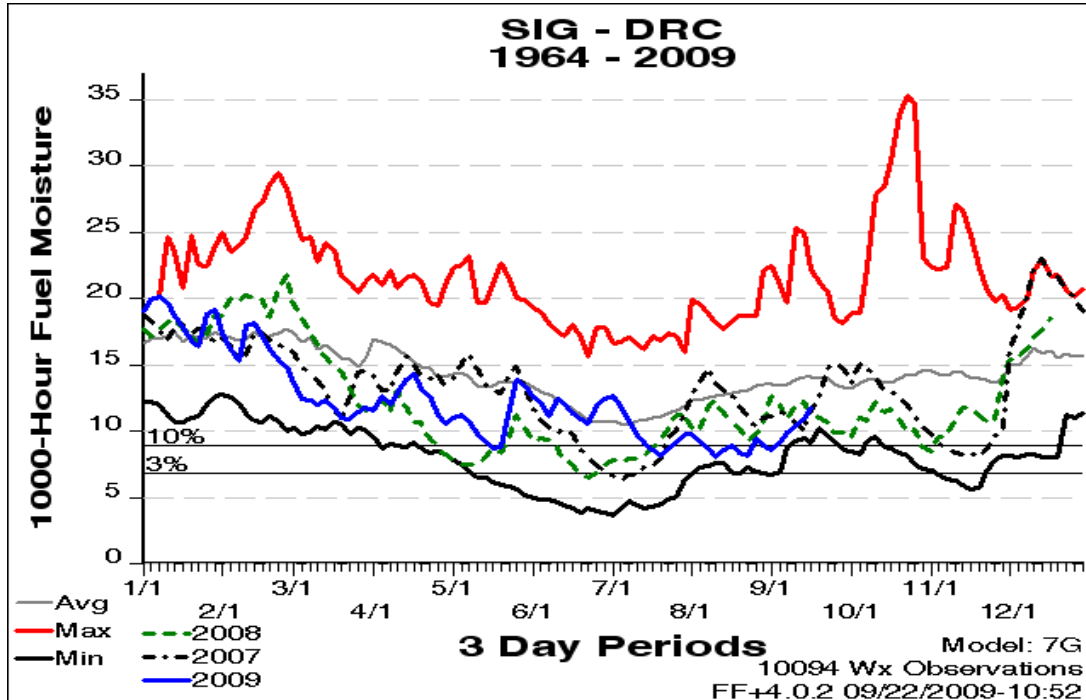
The San Juan Interagency Hotshot Crew was assembled from April 13th to September 24th for the 2009 season. The following is a breakdown of our stats:

Committed to fire assignments:	73 Days
Committed to Regional Bark Beetle Assignment:	16 Days
Committed to training:	16 Days
Committed to projects on home unit:	26 Days
Time off:	35 Days

The crew was assigned to fires in Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah. Over the season we drove an average of 14,000 miles per vehicle. Various projects were accomplished including over 2200 bark beetle trees removed, the removal of approximately 3 miles of fence in a big game migration corridor, the removal of a beaver dam, the removal of a bridge, approximately 10 full days of thinning on the forest, and the management of the Bradfield fire for resource benefit.



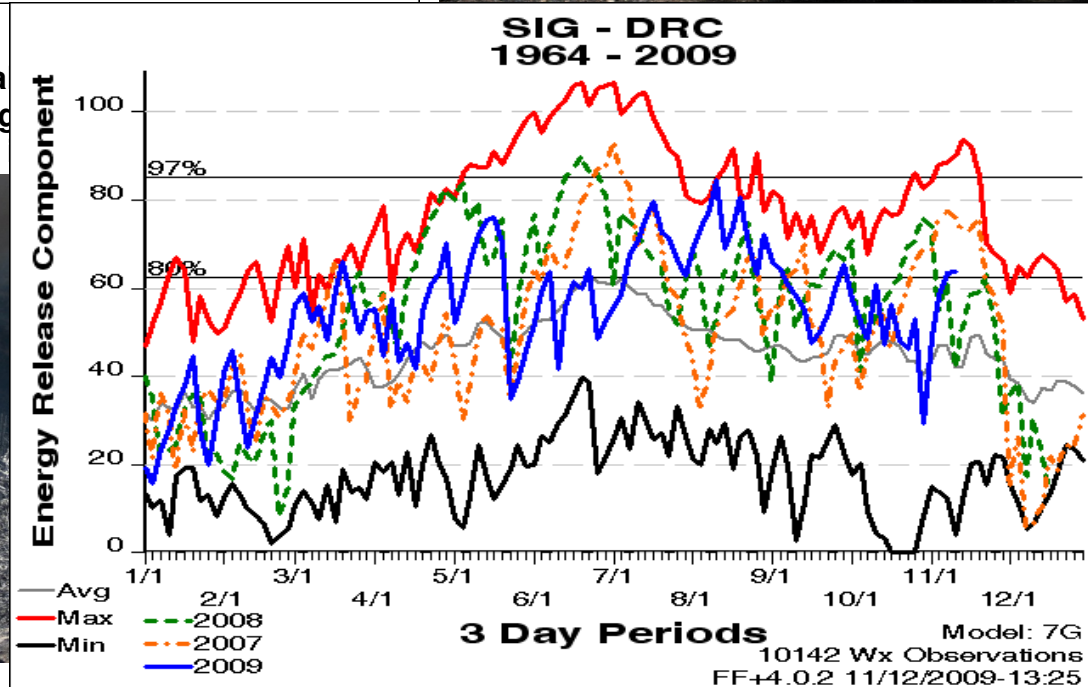
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1000 Hour dead time lag fuel - 3 to 8



Energy Release Component (ERC) - The total heat released per unit area within the flaming front at the head of a moving fire, measured



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5 YEAR AVERAGE - 2004 THRU 2008

RESOURCES TO NATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS											Total People	INCOMING FIVE YEAR AVERAGE						
	DRC	DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA	PVT	Total	People			DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA
O/H	0	37	36	4	330	0	30	0	437	x1	437	O/H	0.8	4.2	18.6	40.4	2.8	13.6
Eng/WT	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	x3	15	Eng/WT	0.6	2.4	9.6	7.6	3.8	10.2
CRWS	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	13	x20	260	CRWS	1.2	0.8	5.4	8.0	3.8	6.4
DOZ/TP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	DOZ/TP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
A/C	0	0	8	0	5	0	5	6	24	x2	48	A/C	5.6	3.0	13.2	8.2	13.0	12.8

RESOURCES TO RMA ZONE ASSIGNMENTS											Total People	OUT GOING FIVE YEAR AVERAGE							
	DRC	DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA	PVT	Total	People			DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA	
O/H	0	16	0	0	115	0	0	0	131	x1	131	O/H	23.2	11.6	25.0	120.4	8.4	9.2	
Eng/WT	0	2	0	1	5	0	0	6	14	x3	42	Eng/WT	5.2	1.0	0.2	2.6	1.8	1.8	
CRWS	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	7	x20	140	CRWS	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.6	0.0	2.4	
DOZ/TP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	DOZ/TP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
A/C	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	x2	2	A/C	0.6	5.0	1.2	8.8	0.0	5.6	

RESOURCES TO INITIAL ATTACK ASSIGNMENTS											Total People	IA FIVE YEAR AVERAGE							
	DRC	DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA	PVT	Total	People			DRS	MVP	SJD	SJF	SUA	UMA	
O/H	0	39	10	52	200	69	116	0	486	x1	486	O/H	68.2	17.4	51.4	197.2	75.2	77.6	
Eng/WT	0	40	10	32	80	83	73	6	324	x3	972	Eng/WT	55.0	12.6	54.6	72.6	73.0	128.6	
CRWS	0	0	0	1	4	4	2	0	11	x20	220	CRWS	2.4	0.2	2.8	6.4	5.2	5.2	
DOZ/TP	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	x2	2	DOZ/TP	0.8	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.6	
A/C	0	3	3	20	36	24	49	0	135	x2	270	A/C	12.0	7.4	19.2	25.4	18.8	30.4	

CREWS UTILIZATION			
	DRC	RMC	NIC
CRW-1	8	2	4
CRW-2	19	0	0

INCOMING RESOURCES		
	Total	5 YR
O/H	50	13.4
Eng/WT	15	5.7
CRWS	21	4.3
DOZ/TP	0	0.0
A/C	47	9.3

OUTGOING RESOURCES		
	Total	5 YR
O/H	568	32.9
Eng/WT	13	2.1
CRWS	17	2.6
DOZ/TP	0	0.0
A/C	28	3.5

IA RESOURCES		
	Total	5 YR
O/H	486	81.2
Eng/WT	318	66.1
CRWS	11	3.7
DOZ/TP	1	0.3
A/C	135	18.9